

Washington, DC – Today, Representative Linda Sánchez released the following statement regarding Judge Phillips' decision on Don't Ask Don't Tell: **"I applaud the ruling by Judge Phillips overturning the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Love for one's country and the desire to serve in the armed forces does not depend upon one's sexual orientation--and our policies should recognize this truth. Since its implementation, DADT has harmed our military readiness and forced brave men and women to choose between serving their country and hiding who they are. Gay and lesbian men and women have served - and currently serve - our country honorably and should be able to continue to do so publicly."**